

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	China	REPORT NO.		25X1
SUBJECT	1. Industrial Shortages in Communist China 2. Scrap Collection, Hunan	DATE DISTR.	3 July 1953	
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. In late March 1953 the Chinese Communists were procuring large quantities of steel band saws without teeth. The steel was to be used in spring steel sheets (sic) or coils.
2. When Hua Hsing (5478/5281) Factory, Canton, applied to the Bureau of Industry and Commerce¹ and the Supply Company² for industrial raw materials, they were told that industrial supplies would last only until April and after that no industrial supplies were expected from outside of China.
3. In mid-November 1952 Chinese Communist authorities in Hunan ordered the local hsien governments to begin a campaign for the collection of scrap iron and copper. Such items as rusty steel trunks, old brass keys and locks, and small nails used in window frames and doors were to be collected. The scrap metal collected south of Ch'angsha (N 28-12, E 112-59) was to be stored at the north railway station in Ch'angsha for later shipment to Wuch'ang (N 30-32, E 114-17). The scrap metal collected north of Ch'angsha was to be stored at Linch'ih (5259/3069) Station. By December the ten hsien and cities along the railway from Canton to Hankow had been thoroughly searched for scrap metal. During December more than 1,000 tons of scrap iron and copper had been shipped from Ch'angsha, and by the end of the month about 300 tons had been stored at the north station in Ch'angsha.

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1. [REDACTED] Comment. Although [REDACTED] does not specify which administrative level of the Bureau is meant here, it is probably the municipal. The 21 March 1953 issue of the Ta Kung Pao, Hong Kong Press, 21-22 March reported a recent conference called by the Bureau of Industry and Commerce in Canton to discuss plans for helping to promote private industries in Canton.

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2. [REDACTED] Comment. Probably the appropriate state-operated trade cooperative for Canton.

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